circuit such as Madras, Mamallapuram, Thanjavur, Madurai, Tiruchirapalli, Chidambaram, etc.

(b) The Central Government has sanctioned Rs. 437.67 lakhs to Tamil Nadu for development of Tourism infrastructure in the State during the 7th Plan period. Similarly, Rs. 134.47 lakhs were sanctioned during 1990-91. For 1991-92, Rs. 142 lakhs has been earmarked for such schemes.

Deletion of Jhudpi Jungle from Forest (Conservation) Act

3022. SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Maharashtra to delete the "Jhudpi Jungle" located in Vidarbha region in Maharashtra from the ambit of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total area covered under the Jhudpi Jungle;

(c) the details of the irrigation and road projects held up on the Jhudpi Jungle; and

(d) the present position regarding clearance for delinking the Jhudpi Jungle from the ambit of the Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total area covered under the Jhudpi Jungle in Maharashtra is 9,23,913.10 hectares. The State Government has proposed that Jhudpi Jungle classified as C class, D class, E class and unclassified be treated as non forest area.

(c) As on 30.11.1991 no irrigation or road project is pending with the Central Government involving diversion of Jhudpi Jungle.

(d) On receiving proposals from Maharashtra Government they were advised to look into the matter in depth. The State Government appointed an inter-disciplinary team to look into entire issue of Jhudpi Jungle. The Committee has submitted its report to the State Government of Maharashtra. The issue was discussed in detail by Minister of State for Environment and Forests with State Government officials and public representatives at Bombay and Nagpur during November, 1991. It was decided that the Committee's report would be examined by the State Government alongwith their recommendations, after receipt of which, decision would be taken by the Central Government expeditiously. Discussions are being actively held with State Government in this matter.

Computer Facilities in Colleges

3023. SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHRI:
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plans for development of computer facilities in colleges/schools/Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Vidyalayas in the country;

(b) if so, the details there and estimated total cost of implementing the first phase thereof; and

(c) the universities which are proposed to be assisted for setting up computer centres?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c). Under the Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS) Project being implemented since 1984-85, 2598 secondary/higher secondary schools including 325 Kendriya Vidyalayas have been selected upto 1989-90. No new school has been selected under the project since 1990-91. Each school selected under the project is given five BBC Micro Computers with the object of providing 'hands on' experience to secondary school students and familiarising them with computer technology. An expenditure of Rs. 3834.25 lakhs has been incurred on the project upto 1990-91.

Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti has introduced Computer Literacy Programmes in 73 vidyalayas in the first phase with an estimated cost of Rs. 123 lakhs per annum.

Central assistance under the Scheme of 'Thrust Areas of Technical Education' has been provided to Engineering Colleges/ Technical Institutions for development of computer faciilities and computer related activities such as computer scheme/technology, Computer Aided Design/Computer Aided Manufacture (CAD/CAM), Robotics and Artificial Intelligence and Computer Integrated Manufacturing (CIM). During the VIIth Plan, 194 projects to the tune of Rs. 25.40 crores were sanctioned by the Government. During 1990-91, 38 projects have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 3.72 crores. Also, a sum of Rs. 7.95 crores was released to 255 Polytechnics for purchase of 'O' level computers during theVIIth Plan.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has provided financial assistance of Rs. 6.83 crores to 790 colleges for development of computer facilities during the VIIth Plan. Depending on availability of resources, the Commission proposes to provide financial assistance to 1000 more colleges during the VIIIth Plan. The UGC provides assistance to Universities for acquisition of computers as and when such proposals are received and subjects to availability of funds. It is, therefore, not possible to name the Universities which may avail of assistanc during the VIIIth Plan.

Reclamaton of Degraded Forest Land

3024. SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fomulated a new policy to involve village communities and voluntary agencies for reclamation of degraded forest land; and

(b) if so, the details of the policy and the steps being taken for the implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). The Government of India have issued guidelines to all State Governments that village communities and voluntary agencies should be involved in regeneration of degraded forest lands on sharing of usufruct and final harvest. Based on these guidelines, the states of Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, and Rajasthan have formulated specific scheme for active involvement of people in afforestation programme. Other State Governments have been urged to take similar action.

Afforestation Programme

3025. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have